implemented w.e.f. 30th September, 1997. The International Development Association (IDA) is providing a credit to cover around 85% cost of the project. The State-wise allocation will be made annually based on technical assessments and other parameters.

Primarily, 100 districts (1045 PHCs) spread in the seven peninsular States included in the Project (Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra. Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa and Rajasthan) and 19 Towns/Cities in these States and in the States of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and West Bengal will be provided assistance both in kind and cash depending on the serverity of the problem. Besides, the entire country will be covered for items like Management Information system (MIS), Human Resource Development and IEC activities.

Central Assistance for Health programmes

*34. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Government had demanded adequate Central assistance to implement various programmes to provide "Health for All" by 2000 AD;

(b) whether the Government of Orissa have urged the Centre to provided additional Central assitance and also for posing the State for World Bank assistance; and

(c) if so, the details of action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE: (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) 'Health for All' is a universal goal and the State governments are primarlily responsible for meeting the preventive, promotive and curative health needs of the people from their own resoruces. However, Central assistance is given to the States for National disease control and Family Welfare programmes including immunisation, keeping in view the funding norms and targets to be achieved in respect of each programme.

(b) and (c) A revised project proposal estimated to cost about Rs. 400.00 crores received from the State Government of Orissa in Februrary, 1997 was posed to the World Bank for assistance under the State Health System Development Project. A Preparation Mission from the World Bank visited Orissa from November 9-14, 1997 and has interacted with the State Health Department of various aspects including preparation of the Project Implementation Plan (PIP), on the basis of which the project will be appraised.

Apart from this, following projects/schemes are at various stages of development/ implementation:—

(i) Schemes for providing equipment for Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel Shishu Bhawan, Cuttack and for upgradation of medical equipment for District Headquarters Hospitals in Orissa have been posed for seeking Japanese assistance.

(ii) Stage-I of Phase-III Health and Family Welfare project in Keonjhar and Bhadrak districts of Orissa with assistance from Department of International Development (DFID), U.K. has been approved.

(iii) A District Sub-Project, under the World Bank assisted Reproductive and Child Health Project, for Kalahandi district of Orissa has been approved.

Pending passport applications in Andhra Pradesh

*35. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pending Passport applications in Andhra Pradesh as on date;

(b) the number of Passports which were issued during 1996-97;

(c) the steps proposed to clear the backlog;

(d) whether the Regional Passport Officer has been directed to entertain suggestions to assist the public; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERWANI): (a) to (e) The